

# United States District Court

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

KEVIN COMPANION, JEFFRY COURTNEY,  
THOMAS SIMCOX, STEPHEN HARRISON.

## CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CASE NUMBER:

07-6030-SNOW

(Name and Address of Defendant)

I, the undersigned complainant being duly sworn state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about Feb. 2004 through January 2007 in Broward county, in the Southern District of Florida defendant(s) did, (Track Statutory Language of Offense)

Conspire and attempt to obstruct, delay, and affect commerce by extortion under color of official right, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951 and 2; and conspire and attempt to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846 and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2

in violation of Title 18, 21 United States Code, Section(s) 1951; 2; 846

I further state that I am a(n) Special Agent of the FBI and that this complaint is based on the following facts:  
Official Title

facts:

See Attached Affidavit

Continued on the attached sheet and made a part hereof:

☒ Yes ☐ No

*Carl E. G. [Signature]*

Signature of Complainant

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence,

Jan. 24, 2007  
Date

at Fort Lauderdale, FL  
City and State

LURANA S. SNOW, MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
Name & Title of Judicial Officer

*Lurana S. Snow*  
Signature of Judicial Officer

## **AFFIDAVIT**

I, Antonio E. Castaneda, Jr., being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. I am a Special Agent ("SA") of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and have been so employed since 1996. I am currently assigned to the Miami Division of the FBI where my investigative responsibilities include public corruption and civil rights matters. In my work with the FBI, I have participated in numerous investigations concerning violations of federal laws by public officials.

2. The information contained in this affidavit is based on personal knowledge from my work on this investigation, and also on information provided to me by other law enforcement officers involved in this matter. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the purpose of setting out probable cause for the issuance of a criminal complaint, this affidavit does not contain all of the information learned during this investigation.

### **The Defendants**

3. At all times relevant to this investigation, defendant KEVIN COMPANION ("COMPANION") has been employed by the City of Hollywood (Florida) Police Department ("HPD") as a Detective. COMPANION has been a police officer with HPD since 1986, and is currently assigned to the Family Services Unit.

4. At all times relevant to this investigation, defendant JEFFRY COURTNEY ("COURTNEY") has been employed by the HPD as a Sergeant. COURTNEY has been employed as a police officer with HPD since 1991, and is currently assigned to the Traffic Unit.

5. At all times relevant to this investigation, defendant THOMAS SIMCOX ("SIMCOX") has been employed by the HPD as a Detective. SIMCOX has been employed as a police

officer with HPD since 1982, and is currently assigned to the Family Services unit.

6. At all times relevant to this investigation, defendant STEPHEN HARRISON ("HARRISON") has been employed by the HPD as a police officer. HARRISON has been employed as a police officer with HPD since 1998, and is currently assigned to patrol.

7. As sworn police officers with the HPD, the defendants were not allowed to receive payments from individuals in connection with the performance or non-performance of their official duties. In addition, as HPD police officers, the defendants were sworn and required to uphold the laws of the State of Florida and the United States, and they were not permitted to allow, facilitate, or assist individuals or organizations in breaking those laws or otherwise engaging in criminal or illegal activity. Finally, as HPD police officers, they were not authorized to accept payments from individuals or organizations to allow, facilitate, or assist them in engaging in criminal or illegal activity.

### **Introduction**

8. The Miami Division of the FBI has been operating an undercover operation for over two years targeting ongoing corruption within the Hollywood Police Department. An FBI undercover agent, UCA 1, was initially introduced to COMPANION as an individual who was collecting debts for an organization, and during the course of the investigation, additional FBI UCAs (including UCA 2, UCA 3, and UCA 4) were introduced to COMPANION as criminal associates of UCA 1. COMPANION was informed that UCA 1's criminal organization was based out of New York. In ongoing discussions and meetings between the UCAs and COMPANION, it was discussed that the UCAs were interested in securing the services of COMPANION and other police officers to protect and facilitate their illegal activities. COMPANION agreed to provide protection and assistance for these

activities, and he also agreed to enlist other police officers to work with him in assisting the UCAs' criminal activities. As the investigation continued, COMPANION brought in COURTNEY, SIMCOX, and HARRISON, who also provided services to facilitate and protect the UCAs' purported criminal operations. At various times during this operation, the defendants discussed how they would utilize their positions and experience as police officers in order to ensure the successful execution of the UCAs' criminal transactions.

#### **COMPANION Protects the Collection of an Illegal Gambling Debt**

9. On or about December 12, 2004, COMPANION accompanied UCA 2 and UCA 3 to a restaurant in Hollywood, Florida in order for the UCAs to collect what had been represented to COMPANION to be a \$20,000 illegal gambling debt. COMPANION had previously agreed to provide protection for this illegal debt collection in a meeting with UCA 2 and UCA 3 on or about December 9, 2004. COMPANION sat at a nearby table with one of the UCAs as they observed the "payment" of the debt by another FBI UCA. COMPANION and the UCAs then exited the restaurant and UCA 3 proceeded to COMPANION's official HPD unmarked vehicle. Once inside COMPANION's car, UCA 3 counted the debt money and explained to COMPANION that the individual owed less but since his payment was late, he had to pay the "juice" charged on the debt. COMPANION was paid \$600 in U.S. currency for his protection services. These events were audio and/or video recorded.

#### **COMPANION Protects the Fencing of Stolen Watches**

10. On or about February 4, 2005, COMPANION again agreed to provide protection for criminal activity, this time for what UCA 3 told him was the fencing of stolen property. The

UCA explained to COMPANION that he was given five valuable stolen watches, including a Rolex, in New York, as payment for a gambling debt, and that he was going to sell the stolen watches to a fence (a term used for someone who knowingly buys and sells stolen property) in the Oakwood Plaza area in Hollywood, Florida. As arranged, UCA 3 met with an FBI cooperating witness portraying the fence and exchanged the watches for \$18,000. During this transaction, surveillance units observed COMPANION providing perimeter security in his official HPD unmarked vehicle. Upon completion of the fencing transaction, UCA 3 followed COMPANION to a nearby location where the proceeds of the "sale" of these "stolen" watches were counted and COMPANION was paid \$1000 in U.S. currency for his protection services. These discussions and transactions were audio and/or video recorded.

11. From on or about March 29 through on or about March 31, 2005, COMPANION met with UCA 1, UCA 2, and UCA 3 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. During this time in Atlantic City, COMPANION stayed at the Borgata Hotel. COMPANION flew to New Jersey at the request of the UCAs in order to discuss upcoming business. During their conversations with COMPANION, the UCAs explained that they were working on criminal activities which would result in a bigger payoff and which would require additional police manpower, including the use of a marked police car. They told COMPANION that they would probably need the additional police manpower to protect and escort the receipt and transportation of a large amount of currency, which would be the proceeds from a sale of "stolen diamonds". COMPANION expressed interest in participating in the protection of this illegal activity and told the UCAs that he could probably come up with something. COMPANION also said that he knew of some "old school" guys who he could probably approach for



assistance. The meetings were audio and video recorded.

### **COMPANION and COURTNEY Protect a Sale of Stolen Diamonds**

12. On or about April 8, 2005, UCA 1 and UCA 2 met with COMPANION and asked if he could be ready to provide protection on April 11, 2005 for the sale of stolen diamonds and the transportation of the proceeds from that sale which they had previously discussed in Atlantic City. COMPANION informed the UCAs that he was available and that he had already enlisted another officer, who he identified only as "Jeff," to assist him. "Jeff" was later identified as JEFFRY COURTNEY, who COMPANION had previously introduced to UCA 1 and UCA 3 in a social setting, in New York, during December 2004. COMPANION agreed to bring COURTNEY to meet with the UCA on April 10, 2005 to discuss the deal which was to take place the next day.

13. On or about April 10, 2005, COMPANION, COURTNEY, and UCA 3 met at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel and UCA 3 <sup>MC</sup>~~3925~~ explained that he was going to be receiving a large amount of cash that needed to be safely delivered to an FBI UCA posing as a trucker, who would transport the cash to New York. UCA 3 explained to COURTNEY that he (COURTNEY) was to escort him (UCA 3) as he brought the money from a hotel in Hollywood, Florida to the Oakwood Plaza, where he was going to deliver the money to the UCA trucker, who would then exit the area driving north on Interstate 95. COURTNEY told the UCA that the tractor-trailer should wait for them behind a specific store in the Plaza because there were no surveillance cameras in that location. COURTNEY was also asked to escort the trucker out of the area to make sure everything went smoothly, and to intervene should local police officers conduct a traffic stop on the truck. UCA 3 told COURTNEY that if the truck was stopped by federal agents, he should ride away and

protect himself. COURTNEY agreed to use his HPD-issued marked police motorcycle to protect this transportation of cash. COURTNEY also told the UCA to give his payment to COMPANION because he (COURTNEY) did not want to meet with the UCA while in uniform. COMPANION suggested during this meeting that if the UCA had to take money up north in the future, that he and COURTNEY could drive the money themselves. Limited introductory portions of this conversation were recorded, however, due to equipment malfunction, the discussion about the substance of the deal was not recorded.

14. On or about April 11, 2005, COMPANION met with UCA 2 and UCA 3 at the Westin Diplomat Hotel ("Diplomat") in Hollywood, Florida, and as agreed, COMPANION provided protection for what he was told was a sale of stolen diamonds. To protect and facilitate this transaction, COMPANION took a number of steps, including obtaining adjoining hotel rooms for the deal, and bringing baby monitors, one of which he concealed in the room where the deal was to take place. For this operation, COMPANION rented two rooms from the Diplomat, which is a part of the Westin Hotel chain. COMPANION and UCA 2 then monitored UCA 3's transaction from the adjoining hotel room, while COURTNEY was stationed near the hotel awaiting a call from COMPANION and UCA 3. UCA 3 delivered the purported stolen diamonds to a third FBI UCA and received what was represented to be \$400,000 in cash as the proceeds of this sale. Once the sale was concluded, COMPANION entered the adjoining room and saw UCA 3 counting some of this money. At this time, COMPANION placed a telephone call to COURTNEY advising him that UCA 3 would soon be coming down with the money.

15. COURTNEY, in uniform and riding on a marked HPD motorcycle, then escorted UCA 3 as he drove from the hotel to the Oakwood Plaza. COMPANION and UCA 2 met



UCA 3 and COURTNEY at Oakwood Plaza, at which time the money represented to be the proceeds of the sale of stolen diamonds was delivered to the UCA trucker who was going to deliver the money to the organization in New York. As agreed, COURTNEY used his HPD motorcycle to escort the trucker as far as northern Broward County. COMPANION was paid a total of \$3800 in U.S. currency once the deal was completed, with \$800 of that intended for COURTNEY for his services. The meetings and events relating to this stolen diamonds deal were audio and/or video recorded.

**COMPANION & COURTNEY Deliver Stolen Bearer Bonds to New York City**

16. On or about May 25, 2005, UCA 3 met with COMPANION and COURTNEY and told them that in the next couple of months, the balance of the debt owed to him from the previous deal (the stolen diamond sale) was going to be paid in bearer bonds that had been stolen in the Caribbean. UCA 3 represented to the defendants that these purported stolen bonds were worth approximately \$400,000. COMPANION and COURTNEY both volunteered to drive these bonds from Broward County to New York City (NYC). During this conversation, the defendants stated that if they were pulled over on the way, they would just "badge" themselves out of the situation. They also stated that they were not going to touch the bonds so that their fingerprints would not be on them.

17. In or around the first week of July 2005, UCA 3 informed COMPANION that he would be receiving the stolen bonds on or around July 15. On or about July 15, 2005, UCA 3 met with COMPANION at the Diplomat. During this meeting, UCA 3 showed COMPANION the "stolen bearer bonds", and gave him the bonds in a locked briefcase, and told him that upon arrival in NYC, he (COMPANION) and COURTNEY should contact the UCA to complete the delivery. COMPANION told the UCA that he had rented a vehicle



to make this delivery and stated that although COURTNEY could not come to the hotel, they would be driving together to NYC.

18. On or about July 16, 2005, COMPANION and COURTNEY arrived in NYC and met UCA 3 in a room at the W Hotel. The briefcase was given to UCA 3, who opened it and showed some of the bonds to COURTNEY. As COMPANION and COURTNEY discussed their trip to NYC with the UCA, COMPANION said that they had passed a car which had a customized plate which read "mafia guy," and joked that they should have been riding in that vehicle. COMPANION was paid \$5000 and COURTNEY was paid \$2500, both in U.S. currency, for transporting these purported stolen bearer bonds. The discussions, meetings and events relating to this deal were audio and/or video recorded.

#### **All Defendants Protect an Illegal High-Stakes Poker Game**

19. After the delivery of the "stolen" bearer bonds to NYC, UCA 3 had a number of discussions with COMPANION, and during one of them, UCA 3 asked COMPANION if he could enlist other police officers to help him provide security for an illegal high-stakes card game. COMPANION stated that he would be able to get a total of four officers, including COURTNEY and himself, to help protect this gambling operation. These meetings and discussions were audio and/or video recorded.

20. Prior to November 18, 2005, UCA 3 had meetings with COMPANION and SIMCOX and discussed how this high-stakes illegal card game was going to take place. UCA 3 stated that the game would take place on a yacht cruising the Intercoastal, the players were flying in from all over the country to play in the game, the players were all people who regularly placed bets with the UCA's organization, and the game was fixed, since the dealer was going to make sure that all of the players lost their money to the house. On

November 18, 2005, prior to the event beginning, UCA 3 met with COMPANION, SIMCOX, COURTNEY, and HARRISON. UCA 3 explained to HARRISON that the "guys" (referring to the supposed gamblers) would approach his vehicle and ask for "Fredo," which was the code identifying them, but that they would not have identification with them. HARRISON was also told to direct them to a particular room in the hotel. HARRISON then left the meeting, and then UCA 3 essentially repeated the previously described details about the rigged card game to COURTNEY, as well as COMPANION and SIMCOX, and he also stressed that since the players were going to lose large sums of money, the officers needed to remain alert in case there was trouble. In response, COMPANION stated that he had brought flex cuffs with him. They also discussed the fact that they had a metal detecting wand with them and that SIMCOX would use it to check the players. These meetings and discussions were audio and/or video recorded.

21. On or about November 18, 2005, this "crooked card game" was staged by the FBI on a rented yacht which sailed from the marina at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 Hotel ("Pier 66"). Approximately twelve FBI UCAs participated in the operation. FBI UCAs flew in to South Florida from around the United States and came to the Pier 66 to play the roles of the regular gamblers, and to facilitate this operation, the FBI rented one suite and one additional room and purchased services such as food and drinks from the Pier 66, which is part of the worldwide Hyatt Hotel chain.

22. Each defendant had a particular role to play in facilitating and protecting what they had been told was an illegal and rigged gambling venture. HARRISON was stationed in a vehicle in the hotel parking lot, and the players had been told to approach him, and when they did, HARRISON verified their identities by checking for their names on a list he was



provided. HARRISON then directed the gamblers to a room that had been rented by the FBI for this operation. SIMCOX was stationed in that initial room with UCA 3 where the purported gamblers were greeted and their money was counted. SIMCOX searched the "gamblers" as they arrived, checked them with a security wand he brought, and patted them down. COURTNEY was located in a suite where each gambler was sent after they were searched and their money was counted. COURTNEY and UCA 2 greeted the gamblers and assembled them in small groups, and COURTNEY then escorted each group to the yacht where COMPANION and UCA 1 were waiting. The defendants did not go on the yacht when it sailed the Intercoastal for the staged card game.

23. As they had agreed, COMPANION, COURTNEY, and SIMCOX were at the marina to meet the yacht when it returned, and these three defendants provided a protection escort for the delivery of the money that was represented to be the organization's "winnings" from the illegal game to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel, where it was to be stored. Each defendant was paid in U.S. currency for their services: COMPANION received \$4000; COURTNEY received \$2500, and SIMCOX received \$1500. HARRISON had been paid \$500 earlier in the evening and was excused before the yacht had sailed. The discussions, meetings, and events relating to this deal were audio and/or video recorded.

#### **COMPANION, COURTNEY & SIMCOX Transport Stolen Diamonds to Atlantic City**

24. After the gambling boat venture, the UCAs continued to have discussions and meetings with COMPANION about providing additional services to the UCAs' purported criminal organization. During these discussions, COMPANION regularly expressed his



eagerness to make money by assisting the organization in its criminal activities. These discussions led to COMPANION agreeing to arrange to transport a shipment of what he was told were stolen diamonds. These discussions and meetings were audio and/or video recorded.

25. To carry out this delivery, on or about December 12, 2005, UCA 2 met with COMPANION and SIMCOX in a hotel room at the Diplomat and gave them a box containing what were represented to be approximately \$1,000,000 in stolen diamonds which had been given to the UCA's organization to pay off a gambling debt. As they had previously discussed, UCA 2 requested that COMPANION organize the delivery by having COURTNEY and SIMCOX drive the "stolen diamonds" from Florida to Atlantic City, New Jersey, while he (COMPANION) would fly to Atlantic City and meet them on their arrival. In the discussions leading up to this delivery, COMPANION and SIMCOX were told how the diamonds were stolen and how the UCA's organization had obtained them. These discussions and meetings were audio and/or video recorded.

26. On or about December 13, 2005, in Atlantic City, New Jersey, COMPANION, SIMCOX and COURTNEY turned over the stolen diamonds to UCA 2. UCA 2 asked COURTNEY whether he had been told about the diamonds and COURTNEY stated that he had. These defendants were paid in U.S. currency for their illegal services, with COMPANION receiving \$5000, COURTNEY \$4500, and SIMCOX \$4000. The transactions were audio and/or video recorded.

#### **All Defendants Protect the Theft of a Tractor Trailer Load of Cigarettes**

27. Following the delivery of the diamonds, COMPANION continued to have discussions with the UCAs regarding other services he could provide to assist their criminal

organization in exchange for additional payments. These discussions led to a deal where COMPANION agreed to enlist the other defendants to provide protection for what he was told was going to be the theft of a tractor trailer load of cigarettes. These discussions were audio recorded.

28. On or about April 7, 2006, COMPANION, COURTNEY, SIMCOX, and HARRISON provided protection and escort for UCA 3 during the above-mentioned theft operation. UCA 3 discussed with the defendants that a truck driver who owed a gambling debt to the UCA's organization had offered to settle his debt by leaving his truckload of merchandise in an area where it could easily be "stolen" by the organization, in this case, at a truck stop near the Miccosukee Casino and Resort in western Miami-Dade County. The truck was to be transported from the theft location by another FBI UCA to the Oakwood Plaza, where the merchandise would be transferred to an FBI UC truck. All of the defendants agreed to participate by providing protection for this operation.

29. To facilitate and protect this "theft", COMPANION and COURTNEY escorted the UCA truck driver and UCA 3 to the location where the truck was waiting to be stolen. The UCA truck driver took the tractor trailer and proceeded back to Oakwood Plaza, as did COMPANION and COURTNEY. While this was ongoing, HARRISON and SIMCOX had remained in the area of Oakwood Plaza guarding the tractor trailer (an FBI vehicle) into which the cigarette load was to be transferred. COMPANION and COURTNEY arrived back at Oakwood Plaza, as did the truck driver with the "stolen" load, and all four defendants stood outside the trucks as the UCA truck driver transferred the cigarettes from the tractor trailer taken from Miami-Dade County into the FBI's tractor trailer.

30. After the transfer was completed, COMPANION and UCA 3 escorted the "stolen"



empty tractor trailer to a "dump" location where the truck was abandoned. COMPANION had earlier stated that the truck should be dumped outside the Hollywood city limits so that HPD's Auto Theft Unit would not be dispatched to the call. After the UCA driver returned to Oakwood Plaza, he began to drive the "stolen" load north and SIMCOX and HARRISON escorted the driver until the vehicle was north of the Broward County line. When the truck left to head north, COMPANION, COURTNEY, and UCA 3 went to the Seminole Hard Rock, and after completing the escort, HARRISON joined them there. These three defendants were paid individually in U.S. currency for their services. COMPANION received \$6000, COURTNEY \$4000, and HARRISON \$2000. SIMCOX had been paid \$3000 in U.S. currency at Oakwood Plaza before the final escort because he was not returning to the hotel. These meetings and transactions were audio and/or video recorded.

#### **COMPANION and HARRISON Deliver Stolen Artwork to Atlantic City**

31. In the weeks after the purported truck heist, COMPANION had discussions with the UCAs regarding his continued willingness to assist their criminal organization in exchange for additional payments. These discussions culminated in COMPANION agreeing to have HARRISON accompany him to deliver what was represented to be valuable stolen artwork from Florida to Atlantic City, New Jersey. These discussions were audio recorded.

32. On or about June 7, 2006, COMPANION and HARRISON met with UCA 2 in his room at the Diplomat in order to receive and transport several items of expensive artwork known to be "stolen". During this meeting, COMPANION and HARRISON were shown the paintings, and UCA 2 discussed with them that the paintings were stolen. COMPANION and HARRISON then took the paintings, which were in a suitcase, with them to deliver to Atlantic City, New Jersey. During this meeting, COMPANION explained to UCA 2 how they



planned to drive the paintings north, and he stated that he was going to bring along police property receipts to use as a part of a cover story if they were stopped by police en route. HARRISON said that he and COMPANION had their stories straight in case they were stopped and questioned separately. The transaction was audio and/or video recorded.

33. On or about June 8, 2006, COMPANION and HARRISON arrived in Atlantic City with the suitcase containing the "stolen artwork" and delivered it to FBI UCA 2. COMPANION was paid \$6000 in U.S. currency and HARRISON was paid \$4000 in U.S. currency for their services. The transaction was audio and/or video recorded.

34. COMPANION had rented a car to drive from Florida to New Jersey to make this delivery. He and HARRISON returned the car in New Jersey and flew home on a commercial flight. This method of renting cars for the trips north, dropping them off, and flying home on commercial flights was also used by the defendants involved in the deliveries of the stolen bearer bonds and diamonds previously described in this affidavit.

35. On or about October 25, 2006, COMPANION flew to Atlantic City at the request of the UCAs for a meeting to discuss possible upcoming activities that would require his services. On or about October 26, 2006, COMPANION met with UCA 1, UCA 2, and UCA 4 in a room at the Borgata Hotel. During this meeting, a number of scenarios were discussed, including the possibility of having COMPANION and his fellow officers provide protection and an escort for an individual who would be transporting a quantity of drugs. Companion indicated that this protection and escort should not be a problem, and that he would let the UCAs know if the other officers were willing to do it.

#### **All Defendants Agree to Protect a Multi-Kilo Heroin Transport**

36. On or about November 14, 2006, COMPANION met with UCA 4 at the Sagamore

Hotel on Miami Beach. During this meeting, they discussed a number of topics including the previously mentioned drug escort. COMPANION stated that he had discussed this with COURTNEY and SIMCOX, and that he had told them that they would be escorting drugs, and that they were willing to do it as a security escort. COMPANION stated that he had not yet told HARRISON that what they would be escorting was drugs. UCA 4 told COMPANION that everyone involved needed to be aware since the "Feds" may be involved if there was law enforcement action taken against the delivery, and they needed "to know the enemy." COMPANION also said that drugs were serious and that they did not want to get "pinched" with it.

37. On or about November 29, 2006, COMPANION, COURTNEY, SIMCOX and HARRISON met with UCA 2 and UCA 4 at the Ritz Carlton in Miami Beach, Florida to discuss the protection and escort of a "mule" (drug deliveryman) who supposedly would be carrying multiple kilograms of heroin the following day. The defendants agreed to escort and protect the mule as he delivered the heroin from a hotel in Miami Beach to Oakwood Plaza. During this meeting, SIMCOX indicated that he did not want to discuss the operation in the hotel room, and instead, the defendants had discussions with UCA 2 on the balcony of the room, during which UCA 2 made the nature of the operation clear to them. The defendants were also told not to mention heroin or drugs in front of UCA 1.

38. The defendants were told that once the mule arrived at the plaza, he would hand over the drugs to a truck driver who would transport it north for the organization. The defendants were to escort this truck driver to the Broward County line to make sure that he encountered no problems. After the previously-described balcony discussions, while the defendants were back in the room, UCA 2 mentioned heroin and one of the defendants



stated that they should refer to it as "jewelry" instead. During this meeting, the defendants and UCAs also discussed this operation in detail. For example, the defendants talked about the counter-surveillance techniques they would use, the way they would escort the driver to Oakwood Plaza, including the fact that they would be in rental vehicles and communicating with walkie-talkies they obtained for the escort, and the actions that would be taken if the mule was stopped and ripped off and/or pulled over by law enforcement authorities. In addition, COMPANION gave the UCAs one of these walkie-talkies. The above meeting and discussions were audio recorded.

39. On or about November 30, 2006, COMPANION, COURTNEY, SIMCOX and HARRISON participated in the protection and escort of the individual (actually an FBI UCA) who they had been told was a mule transporting a multi-kilo load of heroin. COMPANION, COURTNEY, and SIMCOX met with UCAs in their hotel room while awaiting a telephone call to inform them that the heroin transport was to take place. Per the arrangements, HARRISON set up at Oakwood Plaza in order to keep an eye on the truck that was to transport the heroin north (an FBI vehicle) and to be able to detect and report on any counter-surveillance or law enforcement activity that he observed. While awaiting the phone call, COMPANION, COURTNEY, and SIMCOX went over last minute contingencies with the UCAs.

40. Once the call was received, COMPANION, SIMCOX, and COURTNEY went to the cars they had rented for this operation, and they were given the address of the hotel where the mule was awaiting his escort. Each of these three defendants was in a separate rental car, and as the mule headed towards Oakwood Plaza, the defendants provided the promised escort. During the escort, the UCAs were monitoring and recording the



defendants' transmissions as heard on the walkie-talkie COMPANION had given them. The mule arrived at Oakwood Plaza without incident and he delivered the package supposedly containing the heroin to the UCA truck driver, who was then escorted by all defendants as far as northern Broward County.

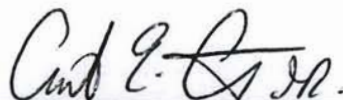
41. After the defendants terminated the escort, they all returned to the UCA's hotel room in Miami Beach to receive their payments. While in the hotel room, the defendants discussed with the UCAs the overall operation, and the defendants also described some of the surveillance techniques and methods they used, and offered suggestions on how a future operation could be improved. All defendants were payed individually in U.S. currency, with COMPANION receiving \$10,000, COURTNEY and SIMCOX receiving \$8000, and HARRISON receiving \$6000. COMPANION was involved in setting the amounts to be received by the other defendants. These discussions and transactions were audio and video recorded.

### **Conclusion**

42. During this investigation, the defendants have been paid the following approximate amounts in U.S. currency for the illegal services they have provided to this purported criminal organization: COMPANION - \$42,000; COURTNEY - \$22,000; SIMCOX - \$16,000; and HARRISON - \$12,000.

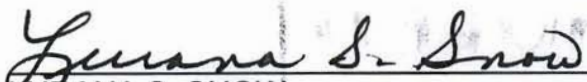
43. Based on the foregoing, your affiant respectfully submits that there is probable cause to believe that the defendants conspired and attempted to obstruct, delay, and affect commerce by extortion under color of official right, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1951 and 2; and that they conspired and attempted to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846 and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT



Antonio E. Castaneda, Jr.  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24 th day of January, 2007.



LURANA S. SNOW  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

